



N.O.W. News

Vol. 43 No. 3

Fall 2005



Meet Bucky Badger



Numismatists of Wisconsin
is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.
Your contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.



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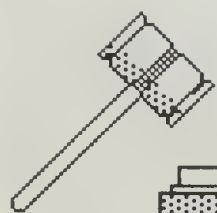
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February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1



President's Message

by Thad Streeter

I sincerely hope that everyone enjoyed their summer. Up here in Wausau it was long, but short; Rainy, but dry; Hot, but cool. Pretty much anything you wanted, or not. So much for living in Wisconsin!

With the end of summer in sight we now get to look forward to the fall coin shows. You can pretty much take your pick. By last count there were six listed in N.O.W. News in Wisconsin alone. That's not bad seeing that you must compete with or schedule around the Green Bay Packers' schedule.

So much has been happening in the hobby the past few months. As usual, there is something for everyone, anywhere from million dollar gold coins (for the big boys and girls) to the Marine Corps Dollar and the continuation of the state quarter program (for everyone else). The U.S. Mint even got into collecting with their seizure of the 10 Langbord 1933 \$20 gold pieces. I guess that they sent them to Fort Knox... not really my idea as to how the process is supposed to work.

Your N.O.W. Board will be busy this fall too. We'll be meeting at 11:00 in Madison on November 6, at the Madison show. Plans will be discussed as to how N.O.W. can become more involved with the local clubs in Wisconsin. Ideas will be brought to the table

as to how best to use the resources that your state organization has to offer. Always remember that N.O.W. is your club. We need to do what is best to promote the hobby of numismatics in this great state of ours.

Terms of office will expire for several of the NOW officers -- be sure to read the "Call For Nominations" on page 3 and start thinking of members who might be interested in serving on the NOW Board. Nominations will close October 31st.

Feel free to contact me with any ideas that you may have. Also, don't forget to ask your collector friends to join your state organization. Membership makes us strong. All local coin club members should be in N.O.W. too. It's the smartest five bucks that they can spend in the hobby.

Until next time, I shall remain yours in Numismatics.

Thad

Mark Your Calendar

NOW BOARD MEETING

November 6, 2005
11:00 a.m.

at the Madison Coin Show
Sheraton Hotel, Madison



Secretary's Notes

by Bill Brandimore

Summer's winding down and the next NOW meeting is almost upon us. I'll be looking for you at the show in Madison on Sunday, November 6th. Madison is always a good venue for a show and we'll take advantage of that to hold one of our Board meetings.

The hobby seems alive with big news as coins and paper currency continue to set records for prices at auction and the Quarter program continues to attract interest to our hobby.

It's as exciting a hobby as I can remember, except, of course, for the time I found an 1916-D Mercury dime in change on my paper route... that was **really** exciting.

On August 26-28, I headed over to Dearborn, Michigan for the Fall CSNS show held in conjunction with the Michigan State Numismatic Society's convention. I don't have a lot of NOW News to share, but I'm looking forward to visiting with you at the Madison show.

Good luck in your collecting pursuits.

* * *

NOW 45th Anniversary Souvenirs Still Available

A limited quantity of the special commemorative medals and souvenir slabs are still available. Also a few of the pure silver examples of the 2000 and 2002 issues may also be available.

For prices and availability, contact Clifford Mishler at Eclectic Pursuits. Payment for any of the above souvenirs should be made out to the Numismatists of Wisconsin and directed to Eclectic Pursuits, P.O. Box 316, Iola, WI 54945.

Call for Nominations

In accordance with Article 1, Section 1, of the NOW Bylaws, a call for nominations of officers shall be made in the fall issue of NOW News. Nominations must be made in writing by a regular or life member of NOW. Nominees must be paid up members of Numismatists of Wisconsin.

Terms will expire for the following officers:

President:	Thad Streeter
Vice President:	Mike Schiller

Board of Governors (3 year terms)	
Tom Casper	Tom Galway
Myles Fenske	Mike Tramte

According to our Constitution, "No member shall be eligible for election of President or Vice President unless he has been a member of the Executive Board for a minimum of 1 year and a member of NOW for a minimum of 3 years. Candidates for Board of Governor must have been a member of NOW for a minimum of 1 year and no member may nominate himself or herself."

Candidates should have the interest and desire to participate in and attend the 2 or 3 board meetings held each year.

Nominations will close October 31st and should be sent to Numismatists of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560.

* * *





ANA Highlights

Rochette Honored by ANA

Edward Rochette, retired executive director of the ANA was honored by the ANA recently, but there was confusion about what the honor actually was!

Cliff Mishler and Chet Krause attended the special July 2nd ceremony honoring Rochette. Mishler unveiled a banner that said the "Edward C. Rochette Numismatics Museum." This, in part, stems from Krause's wishes and his \$250,000 donation toward the museum's fund raiser, matched by another \$250,000 by an anonymous donor.

Despite what the banner said, ANA determined that their world-class Money Museum dedicated only its main gallery to Edward Rochette (not the whole museum).

Rochette worked for Krause Publications from 1960-1966 as editor of Numismatic News. He then went on to edit the Numismatist, served as ANA executive vice president until 1987, served on the elected board of governors, served as elected president 1991-1993 and then in 1998-2003 he served again as executive director.

Ref. Numismatic News & ANA Numismatist]

* * *

Awards Presented to Krause and Mishler

The ANA Exemplary Service Award is presented to an individual, club or corporation, firm or organization whose service to the ANA is deemed "above and beyond the call."

Chester Krause of Iola, Wis. (founder of Numismatic News) was presented this award at the ANA convention in San Francisco. Chet was selected for his generous and continuing support of the hobby and the ANA. He has fostered the growth of numismatics in almost every imaginable way. From appearing before Congress to safeguard U.S. hobby laws and coinage quality to donating time and material resources to strengthen ANA, this heroic hobbyist turns his thoughts into positive action, and collectors are the grateful beneficiaries. Chet is NOW Life Member #1.

NOW Board member, Clifford Mishler, was also honored by ANA... he received the Burnett Anderson Memorial Award for Excellence in Numismatic Writing at ANA's summer convention. Mishler spent nearly 40 years in the employ of Krause Publications. He was named executive vice president in 1975, then senior vice president in charge of operations in 1989, president in 1991 and finally chairman of the board in 2000. Cliff retired from Krause Publications in 2003, but this was short lived because he recently joined Whitman Publishing LCC as Director of Business Development. He will continue to work out of his office in Iola, Wisconsin.

In addition to being a significant contributor to the Krause series of Standard Catalogs in the fields of world coins and paper money, he held important positions on many committees, including the Wisconsin Quarters Council. Seeking an appropriate way to recognize the contributions of grassroots hobbyists, Mishler established Numismatic News' Numismatic Ambassador Award, one of the hobby's most prestigious honors.

[ref. ANA The Numismatist and Numismatic news]

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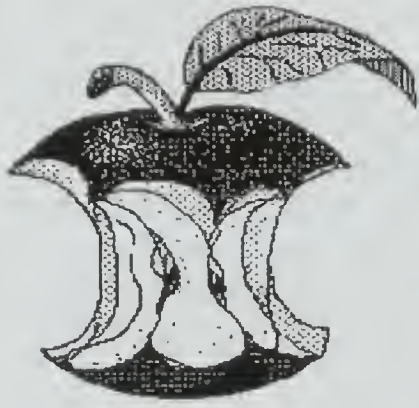
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Coin Club News

Lakeland Coin Show

by Gene Johnson

It was sizzling hot on July 16th. Even at 6 a.m. when we departed Wisconsin Rapids for a 125 mile ride up highway 51 to Minocqua, Wisconsin, and the initial coin show of the recently formed "Lakeland Coin and Stamp Club."

The show location was attractive and easy to find and the Lakeland High School commons was a fine place to meet the public, and introduce the area to the joy of our collecting hobby.

Bourse chairman, Jerry Jaeger had publicized heavily in the free media, as well as paid advertising; some as far away as Ironwood, Michigan, where the media was unusually interested in a "coin and stamp show."

The 20-member club had an unusual registration setup, where attendees signed up for door prizes, but no raffle tickets were sold due to the local blue laws.

At registration, children attending were offered free stamps and up to 10 pieces of mixed exonomia of their choice.

Dealers attending were from as far west as Minnesota, far north as Stone Lake and Hayward, far east as Green Bay, and south as Milwaukee and Watertown.

Attendance peaked out at about 150 (good for a first show). The dealers were happy and bourse chairman, Jerry Jaeger, said there was a nice "buzz" during peak activity.

* * *

Madison Coin Club

Members and their families met at Garner Park on August 8 for an evening of socializing before enjoying a potluck dinner. Following dinner, bingo was played and coin prizes were won by each family. The weather man even cooperated -- NO RAIN!



Lakeland Coin
Club Treasurer,
Paul Engall, Presi-
dent Dean Marin,
Bourse Chm. Jerry
Jaeger, V. Pres.
Elmer Schroll,

Secretary Byron
Wechter (absent)

Ozaukee Coin Club

by Bruce Benoit

Congratulations to Nels P. Olsen (editor) and the Ozaukee Coin Club! Their newsletter placed 1st in the American Numismatic Association's annual coin club publication contest in the local club, electronic division.

The Ozaukee Coin Club is a newly formed group (about 2 years ago) located just north of Milwaukee in Grafton, Wisconsin. The club has approximately 35-40 members and focuses on educating its members, including young numismatists. There are many young families participating in activities at their monthly meetings. A formal presentation of the award was given by ANA Governor, Patti Finner, at the club's September meeting.

* * *

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

by Gene Johnson

The members and families of the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club gathered for their annual picnic on July 19th at the west shelter house of Wausau's South Bluegill Park.

Coming off two incredibly hot weather days (95° on Monday) we were pleased to have a nice sunny, but tolerable temp day to picnic.

Repair on County Trunk "N" delayed our arrival a bit, and the chow-hounds were at work when we arrived at 5:45 p.m.

This year a catered chicken and fixings was the finest to date... just excellent, and the 22 members and guests were also treated to some very special "home cookin" type deserts. Vice President, Jerry Zocher, went to his raspberry patch in the morning and his wife created a berry cobbler that was simply off the charts -- BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED!

One of the peculiarities of the yearly event is that the shelter house cannot be reserved. Long-time member, George Alaphouzios "baby sat" from early afternoon to reserve the club site. It's always a special treat to break bread with fellow collectors. There's usually a bit of show-and-tell, and always the joy of our shared hobby.

* * *

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

MNS has a new up-and-running website, thanks to Bruce Benoit. Their site includes information about their monthly meetings, club contacts, programs and other club activities. In the near future it will include a coin show calendar, other numismatic websites links, a printable membership application, details about their annual Boy Scout merit badge clinic and more. To view their website go to www.milwaukeeenumismaticssociety.com.

* * *

In Memory of Leonard Saunders

NOW Life Member #74

by Tom Casper

Leonard Saunders died on June 13th after a long battle with cancer. He became a Life Member of NOW in 1986 and was also a Life Member of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society. Leonard was a full-time coin dealer who started with coins and later branched out to eclectic material such as ephemera and exnumia.

Survivors include his wife, Anita and children, Christopher, Benjamin and Ariana. Leonard will be greatly missed by the coin collecting community.

* * *

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

The Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club held their annual coin show on Saturday, August 6th at the Siren Senior Community Center in Siren, Wisconsin. The show was well attended and activity was steady at the dealers' tables. They had hourly drawings for door prizes and a raffle for a 1/4 oz. Gold Eagle and the show concluded with an auction. The new wooden nickel featuring a black bear is available for 25¢ plus a self-addressed stamped envelope.



To order contact:
Fishbowl Wooden
Nickel Coin Club,
Gary Schauls,
2702 150th Street,
Luck, WI 54853-3811.

A Report on the ANA Summer Seminar

by Bruce Benoit #1948

I'd like to thank the Milwaukee Numismatic Society for awarding me a scholarship to attend the ANA Summer Seminar. I met many new interesting people from all over the world and was able to reconnect with many familiar faces from previous years. The only bad thing was that I missed the weekend coin show and couldn't stay for the second week. There are many people I knew that were attending only the 2nd session and the relationships we developed at the seminar over the past several years can't be beat.

The class I enrolled in was "How to prepare a winning exhibit" taught by Jerry Kochel and John Eshbach, both from Pennsylvania, with assistance from Joe Boling, Chief ANA exhibit judge of Seattle, Washington. The class was great because it forced the students to assemble an exhibit in less than 3 days. We were given information through handouts and a lecture, and then were off to do our research and preparation. I learned a lot about different exhibiting techniques.

Sometime in the near future I plan to share what I've learned with the local clubs.

I was also fortunate to pass the ANA Exhibit Judge's Certification, an evening seminar taught by Joe Boling, with assistance from Jerry Kochel and John Eshbach. I am certified in Canadian numismatics. Only 6 of the 11 who enrolled were granted certifications.

* * *

In Memory of Robert Kutcher

John and Nancy Wilson recently notified us of the death of Central States Numismatic Society Board Member, Robert Kutcher. He was a collector, exhibitor, researcher, coin club officer and wrote numerous articles on various subjects. Kutcher was an expert at exhibiting and was especially interested in ancient coins, sharing his collection and knowledge with anyone who was interested.

* * *

Wisconsin Rapids Coin Show

by Gene Johnson

The 4th annual Wisconsin Rapids coin show was held at the Rapids Mall on Sunday, August 14th, on a pleasant day, weather wise. Dealers from as far away as Minnesota, Watertown and Milwaukee were part of a 12-dealer bourse covering 28 tables of numismatic offerings.

One hundred eighteen customers registered for door prize drawings that included proof sets, coins, and a top prize of a crisp uncirculated \$5 silver certificate.

Bourse chairman, Gary Rosencrans reported good dealer response, and a strong and steady customer flow through the late afternoon. In an innovative perk, free coffee tickets were distributed that could be redeemed at one of the mall's restaurants. Mall management found that the attending numismatists brought along their spouses for shopping while they hobby browsed, one of the plus side advantages of mall coin shows.

* * *



Book Nook

Origami Folding Money Books

There are people who have nothing better to do than turn dollar bills into dinosaurs, wearable rings, boats etc.. This form of origami (folding money into interesting shapes) can be pretty amusing.

Paper folding originated in China in about the first century A.D., but no one knows for sure when paper money became part of the craft. In the 20th century, magicians and showmen performed money folding feats on stage and in the 1950s books became available that allowed everyone to play.

A lot of Origami sites are also online -- search for paper money origami, paper money folding, etc.. Be sure to use crisp, new bills for your folding projects -- limp, beat-up notes don't work.

Today's money folders will enjoy *The Buck Book*, *All Sorts of Things to Do with a Dollar Bill -- Besides Spend It*, by Anne Akers Johnson, and *Dollar Bill Animals in Origami* by John Montroll.

[source: "Discover The World of Money"]

The "Discover the World of Money" newspaper is available from ANA for \$10 for 50 copies; \$17 for 100. To order, contact ANA's Education Dept. 719-632-2646 or FAX 719-634-4085.

* * *

Out of Print Reference Books Available from Durst

Sanford Durst, numismatic publisher and distributor, is reissuing several rare and long-out-of-print numismatic reference books. A few titles are listed below.

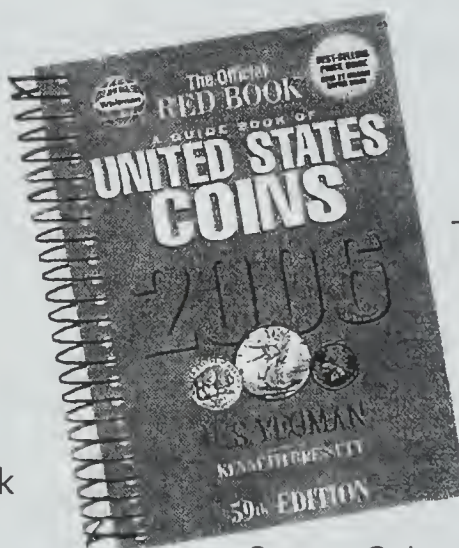
Five obsolete currency and scrip books covering Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania.

"Austrian/Hungarian Coinage & Paper Money of the Hapsburgs" (1519-1938);

"Die Taler Der Schweiz" by Jean-Paul Divo;

Early U.S. Colonial coinage "The Coins of New Jersey by Edward Maris and "The Copper Coins of Massachusetts" by Hillyer Ryder.

For a full list of books, contact Sanford Durst at 516-867-3333 or FAX 515-867-3397.



2006 Red Book

The 2006 Red Book has been redefined and redesigned in this 59th Edition. For 59 years, Whitman Publishing has set the standard for coin pricing with the Guide Book of United States Coins. This year they've made the Red Book even better. It's easier to read and the content has been rearranged, so finding information quickly is a snap. New photos were added throughout, to illustrate the spectrum of U.S. Coins in full color.

A limited leather-bound edition is available for \$69.95. Each book is individually numbered and includes the personal signature of editor Ken Bressett. To order, call Whitman Publishing 1-800-546-2995.



Collectors Alert - Beware

"Freedom Tower" Silver Dollar

[Editor's note: I have received several mailings from this company and had planned on writing about this so-called "Mint", but I think the following article published in the Illinois Numismatic Association's newsletter says it all.]

The United States Mint wants to alert consumers and the public about a new product being marketed by a private firm -- the National Collector's Mint, Inc. The National Collector's Mint, Inc. advertises this product as a "Freedom Tower Silver Dollar" originating from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and claims that it is a "legally authorized government issue" coin.

On October 13, 2004, the New York Supreme Court issued a temporary restraining order against the National Collector's Mint, Inc. immediately halting the advertisement and sale of the "Freedom Tower Silver Dollar." Consumers who have questions or concerns about the "Freedom Tower Silver Dollar" can contact the New York Attorney General's Office at www.oag.state.ny.us or by calling the Attorney General's consumer help line at 800-771-7755 (in-state) or 518-474-5481 (out-of-state).

The "Freedom Tower Silver Dollar" is not a genuine United States Mint coin or medal. Under the Constitution, Congress has the exclusive power to coin money of the United States. Congress has delegated its authority to mint and issue coins to the

Secretary of Treasury, and Congress requires the Secretary to carry out these duties at the United States Mint. Thus, the United States Mint is the only government entity in the United States with the authority to coin money. Clearly, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. insular possession, does not have the authority to coin its own money.

Consumers may find the advertisements for this product confusing because the National Collector's Mint uses phrases such as "legally authorized government issue", "U.S. Territorial minting," and "silver dollar". The product itself may be confusing because it bears the denomination "One Dollar" and the inscription "In God We Trust", which Congress requires on all United States coins. Congress did not authorize the National Collector's Mint product, and the United States government does not endorse it.

* * *

Lottery Scam Affects Coin World

Phony Contest Solicits Personal and Financial Information

Coin World's name and logo are being used illegally by an entity purporting to be an international lottery that broadcasts unsolicited e-mail world-wide. "We are taking all measures available to us to notify the public that we have no affiliation with any lottery, and to aggressively protect our trademarked properties," said Coin World Editor, Beth Deisher.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reports that this profile fits that of an internet scam. Besides using bogus names and affiliations, the perpetrators have lifted a legitimate entity's name and logo in an attempt to add credibility to their pitch. This is a new twist, say FTC investigators.

In this scenario, Coin World's identity is used at the top of a "prize claim form" sent to those who respond to an e-mail communica-

tion informing the recipient that he has "emerged" from among 17 international "winners" and has been "approved for a lump sum pay out" of 13 million euros from a total prize of 324 million. The letter, from a person claiming to be executive director of "COIN WORLD PROMOTIONS PLC" urges the winner to provide personal information and an account number where the prize money can be deposited.

Coin World's investigation reveals that the winner is directed to access a password protected electronic mailbox and the website www.GAWAB.com, which claims to be "the leading e-mail service provider worldwide and the first in the Middle East to provide websites with fully outsourcing e-mail solutions." The listed telephone /fax number appears to be located in Johannesburg, South Africa, although modern technology makes it possible to forward telephone calls anywhere in the world. To learn more about international lottery scams, visit the FTC's website at www.ftc.gov.

[Reprinted from ANA "The Numismatist"]

* * *

U.S. Mint Creates Educational Sets

To introduce new coin collectors to the hobby, the U.S. Mint announced their new educational set entitled "Collecting America's Coins -- Beginner Basics". The set helps explain the different coins and finishes, and will help collectors understand what "uncirculated" means and what "proof" is and it will begin to tell the story of America's coinage.

The set includes a pair of circulation strike one-cent coins, a pair of satin-finish uncirculated dimes and a proof half dollar. The cents and dimes are from Philadelphia and Denver, the proof half from San Francisco.

A cent blank with upset edges is included to show steps involved in coin production. A booklet outlining the history of American coinage is also included in the set.

The set is due to be released this fall and will be priced at \$14.50.

* * *

American Money Gold Rush Museum Ground Breaking

A ceremonial ground breaking of the San Francisco Museum for the old Mint will take place October 7, 2005.

The San Francisco Old Mint, known affectionately as the "Old Granite Lady," was established by Congress in 1852 to convert miners' gold from the California gold rush into coins. Solid construction enabled San Francisco's oldest structure to survive the 1906 earthquake and fire, making it the only financial institution that was able to operate immediately after the earthquake, thus serving as the treasury for disaster relief funds.

The Granite Lady also played an important role in the completion of the transcontinental railroad and the economic development of the entire western United States. More than half of the coins minted in the U.S. once came from the San Francisco Mint. One third of our nation's gold supply was once held there.

Last year a bill was introduced in Congress that would create a commemorative coin honoring the San Francisco Mint. The Bill has been reintroduced as HR-1953 in this session of Congress and if it passes, this will be the first commemorative coin to honor a U.S. Mint and support a numismatic cause. The coins are scheduled to come out in 2006.

Most commemorative coins issued by the U.S. Mint are bought by collectors. This particular coin will be exceptionally popular with numismatists because of its celebration of one of the most important icons in U.S. coinage history, and moreover, it is one way the government can say "thank you" to collectors for their loyal patronage over the many years.

Proceeds from the issuance of the commemorative coin will help support the American Money and Gold Rush Museum (AMGRM), an upcoming national showcase of American numismatic history that will tell the story and concept of money, from the beginning of a barter economy, the impact of the California gold rush, to how coins were first minted.

As one of the nation's largest money museums, the San Francisco Old Mint will be devoted to telling the story of our country's coinage from Colonial times to the present. Each exhibit will offer visitors a glimpse into the social and cultural history of the time period using state-of-the-art displays and interactive exhibits and will serve as a significant teaching facility for children. Millions of coin collectors, teachers, students, historians and visitors throughout our country, as well as internationally, will have a first class facility to view, explore, research and learn about the history of coinage. This is very important given the recent decision by the Smithsonian Institution to close its Hall of Money and Medals at the National Museum of American History.

In addition to the American Money and Gold Rush Museum, plans include a high-end restaurant, a destination center for tourists, museum offices, and an education center.

ANA Executive Director, Christopher Cipoletti stated "This is our last chance to get this coin bill passed and your support is needed." You can help by calling Julie Lewis with Congresswoman Pelosi at 202-225-4965 or Emily Pfeiffer with Congressman Castle at 202-225-4165, or by contacting your congress person and telling them that you and other numismatists support this bill. If HR-1953 doesn't pass in this session of Congress, we'll have to wait until 2010 for the next try. For more information visit 222.amgrm.org.

* * *

Presidential \$1 Bill Moving Through The Senate

On July 28th, the Senate Banking Committee moved the Presidential \$1 Coin Act nearer reality just prior to the summer congressional recess.

The bill requires the secretary of the Treasury to mint golden-colored coins in commemoration of each of the nation's past Presidents and their spouses. A similar measure already passed the House of Representatives. Senate approval and signature into law by President Bush is required before it becomes a reality.

The Presidential \$1 coin may appeal to coin collectors, but it's doubtful that the general public will accept them any better than they did the Susan B. Anthony or the Sacagawea dollar!

[ref. Numismatic News]

* * *

New TrueView Photo Service Grading Service

Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) introduced a new photo grading service at the World's Fair of Money convention in San Francisco last July.

"Auction firms, dealers and individual collectors can now obtain high-end resolution digital images of the coins they submit to PCGS" said Ron Guth, director of numismatic research for PCGS, a division of Collector's Universe, Inc. of Newport Beach, CA.

Fees are as low as \$5 per coin in addition to applicable certification fees. PCGS offers two different sizes of images (one for e-mail or website use and a larger one for catalog use). The image consists of the obverse and reverse of the coin in a single digital file with the PCGS certificate number.

To learn more, call PCGS at 800-447-8848 or e-mail info@pcgs.com.

* * *

Coin Kids 101

Coin Kids 101, a correspondence course for young or new collectors, has been completed and is going to press shortly. According to a Numismatic News article, the course was compiled by Fred Freeman with the help of the Canadian Numismatic Association, the Ontario Numismatic Association and other organizations. It's designed as an introductory course for junior collectors or anyone wanting a basic overview of the hobby.

The cost of the course is \$29 and orders can be sent to Fred Freeman at 88 Northland Cr., Woodstock, ON N4S 6T5 or e-mail coinkids@execulink.com.

* * *

British Royal Mint Strikes United Kingdom Britannia Gold Proofs

The United Kingdom's 2005 Britannia Gold Proof coins, struck by the British Royal Mint, once again offer collectors an exciting new design.

Philip Nathan demonstrates his innate understanding of Britain's allegorical figure with this imaginative new design. His 5th design for the 2005 coin shows a seated Britannia. Original, yet pleasingly familiar, she makes a compelling figure as she watches over Britain's coastline. With her helmet and flowing robes, and trident and shield to hand, her alert bearing shows her as a strong and loyal defender. An olive branch shows her desire for peace while her helmet and trident show she is not defenseless against aggression. Nathan once again successfully brings a



sense of numismatic moment to this historic and popular British symbol.

It was the Romans who first called the island of England, Scotland and Wales "Britannia". The word is believed to have been derived from the Celtic brith or brit - "painted" - referring to the custom of the inhabitants of decorating their bodies with woad. The Roman habit of personifying continents and countries as female figures brought the introduction of Britannia on the coins of Emperor Hadrian in 119 AD and upon those of Antonius Pius (138-161 AD) and Commodus (180-192 AD).

It wasn't until the 17th century that Britannia again appeared on the coinage as she became an allegorical figure representing England's growing greatness as a world power. In 1665, as war broke out between the English and the Dutch, Jean Rottier came over from Antwerp at the invitation of Charles II and, using the king's mistress -- Frances Stewart, Duchess of Richmond -- as his model, produced a new portrait of Britannia. Although some changes were made through the years, Britannia became a firm part of Britain's coinage to the extent that by the middle of the 20th century she had assumed the status of an immortal.

In keeping with established mintages, only 1,500 4-coin proof sets have been authorized for distribution, together with an additional 500 3-coin sets containing the 1/2 ounce; quarter ounce and 1/10th ounce coins. Also, the 1/4 ounce and 1/10th ounce coins will be available individually.

Prices of the 2005 United Kingdom Gold Proof Britannias range from \$145 for the 1/10 ounce coin to \$1,895 for the 4-coin collection. For orders and inquiries, call 1 800-221-1215 or e-mail the British Royal Mint at usa@royalmint.com.

* * *

A New Challenge For The Director of the Mint

President Bush appointed Henrietta Holsman Fore to be Under Secretary of State for Management. Fore served 4 years as the 37th Director of the U.S. Mint and was in the foreground of the coin collecting hobby with the launching ceremonies for the release of many of our state quarters.

David Lebryk has been named Acting Director of the Mint and began serving on August 2nd, the day Fore was sworn in.

Terry Neese of Oklahoma was nominated by President Bush to become the 38th Director of the U.S. Mint.

[ref. Numismatic News & ANA]

* * *

Series 2004A \$10 Notes

The first Series 2004A \$10 Federal Reserve Notes were printed by the Bureau of Engraving & Printing in July. The new colorized notes are scheduled to be released into circulation this winter or next spring. No further details on the release of the notes or colors or designs are available.

In July the Bureau of Engraving and Printing printed 4,000 sheets (128,000) of star notes designated for the San Francisco district.

The new \$10s are dated Series 2004A because they bear the facsimile signatures of Treasury Secretary John W. Snow and new U.S. Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral.

[ref. Numismatic News]

* * *

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

The Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (WFSC) is a nonprofit umbrella group for local stamp collecting clubs within and bordering the state of Wisconsin. To help keep their treasury afloat, they produce a first-day cover for every U.S. Postal Service stamp that is issued in Wisconsin.

When the Wisconsin quarter came out, they decided to deviate a bit and promote philately with a bit of numismatic flair. Now that their WFSC members have had an opportunity to purchase the covers, they are expanding their publicity to the numismatic community.

Information on the "First Day of Issue," along with prices, is given in their advertisement on page 16.

Check out their website at www.WFSCstamps.org for more information about the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Club or call 608-836-1509.

* * *



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The Oregon Quarter

The state of Oregon is honored with the third quarter to be released in 2005 and the 33rd in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarter Program.

On February 14, 1859, Oregon became the 33rd state to be admitted into the Union. Its coin design features a portion of Crater Lake, the deepest lake in the United States, viewed from the south-southwest rim. The design incorporates Wizard Island, as well as Watchman and Hillman Peaks on the lake's rim and conifers. The coin bears the inscription "Crater Lake".

Crater Lake is a unique and stunning natural treasure, formed more than 7,700 years ago by the collapse of Mt. Mazama in what is now southern Oregon. At 1,949 feet, it is the deepest lake in the United States and the 7th deepest in the world, and has a record clarity depth of 134 feet. The main cause of Crater Lake's remarkable clarity is its isolation from incoming streams and rivers.

President Theodore Roosevelt established Crater Lake National Park in 1902, with the lake itself as the Park's crown jewel. It is the 6th oldest national park in the country.

Since its creation, Crater Lake National Park has helped protect both the Native American cultural ties to the area and

the natural habitat of the animal and plant life that lies within its boundaries.

On May 24, 2004, Governor Ted Kulongoski endorsed the recommendation of the 18 member Oregon Commemorative Coin Commission by forwarding the Crater Lake design to the United States Mint. Other themes considered by the Commission and the Governor included an historical theme featuring the Oregon trail Mt. Hood with the Columbia River and a wild Chinook salmon. The Department of the Treasury approved the "Crater Lake" design on July 13, 2004.

* * *

The Kansas Quarter

The fourth quarter to be released in 2005 commemorates the state of Kansas.



On January 29, 1861, the "Sunflower State" became the 34th state to be admitted into the Union. Kansas marks the 34th coin to be issued in the United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarter Program and features a buffalo and sunflower motif, emblematic of the state's history and natural beauty. The Kansas commemorative quarter incorporates two of the state's beloved symbols, the state animal and flower, the buffalo and the sunflower.

Each of these two design elements is a visual reminder of our nation's heartland. They feature prominently in the history of the territory, and both were found in abundance throughout the state in the middle of the 19th century when Kansas gained its statehood. With the release in

the fall of 2005, it is the second United States circulating coin of 2005 to carry an image of the buffalo.

In June of 2003, Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius announced the creation of the 16 member Kansas Commemorative Coin Commission to narrow the search for Kansas' quarter design to four finalists. The winning design was then recommended by the state's high school students in a state-wide vote held in the spring of 2004. In addition to the winning design, the other finalists included an image of the statue that sits atop the state Capitol -- an American Indian archer aiming his bow skyward toward the North Star, an image of the sunflower with wheat, and a design that featured a single sunflower. The Department of Treasury approved the "Buffalo and Sunflower" design on July 13, 2004.

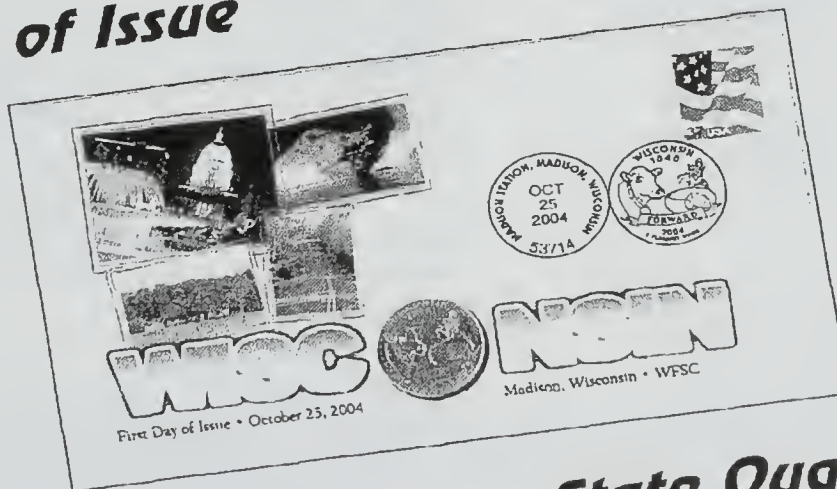
* * *

The Tragic Tale of Baby Doe and the Matchless Silver Mine

In 1882, 50-year old Horace Tabor, silver mine millionaire, political player -- left his wife to marry 25-year old Baby Doe McCourt, who was poor, beautiful and newly divorced. For 15 years the couple lived a life of opulent luxury supported by Tabor's silver mines, but after the country switched to the gold standard, they lost everything.

Tabor died in poverty in 1899. Although Baby Doe could have easily remarried, she spent the remaining 36 years of her life living in the storage shack of the Matchless Mine -- a silver producer once the source of her wealth. She was found frozen on the floor of the shack in 1935. All that was left of the Tabor fortune were some bolts of cloth, a tea service and some jewelry.

First Day of Issue



State Quarter Cover

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs —

Canceled with the official U.S. Postal Service October 25, 2004, Madison, WI, pictorial postmark. Includes a mint copy of the actual coin encased in archival material and placed to represent the letter "O" in the word "Wisconsin." Multicolored graphics depict familiar Wisconsin scenes. To mail order, send \$5 per cover plus \$1 postage and handling to: Paul T. Schroeder, Treas., WFSC, 1750 W. 5th Ave., Apt. F, Oshkosh, WI 54902-5586. Include a request for "Wisconsin quarter cover" and make checks payable to the WFSC.

An Old Bank With a New Tenant

by Tom Casper #982

In a previous bank history article, which I wrote for the Milwaukee Numismatic Society newsletter, I pointed out the nexus between banking and numismatics. So naturally, when I saw the article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on June 25, 2005 about the Kilbourn State Bank building in Milwaukee, WI, it piqued my interest. It is located near where I grew up and I passed by it regularly. It has been vacant and boarded up for some time and has become an eyesore with the plywood window coverings littered with posters. The letters (Kil)bourn State Bank are still visible between the stone columns on the upper facade on the east side of the building.

The Kilbourn State Bank building is located at 2741 W. Fond du Lac Avenue. It is at the intersection of N. 27th St., W. Center Street and W. Fond du Lac Avenue. The triangular-shape of the building is similar to the Second Ward Bank and a few others around Milwaukee.

Photographer Ferdinand A. Steinborn built the building as a photo studio in 1905. Kilbourn State Bank incorporated on January 26, 1915 with a capitalization of \$50,000. The initial investors were prominent businessmen from the immediate neighborhood. The original officers were F.W. Kunkel as president, Jacob H. Weber as vice president, and Frederick E. Wallber as cashier.

On August 1, 1915 Steinborn leased the first floor and part of the basement to the fledgling bank. He remodeled the building for the new tenant, which included adding a vault. The work was finished by August 25, 1915 and it is



A current photo of the Kilbourn Bank in Milwaukee.

presumed that Kilbourn State Bank opened its doors to customers shortly thereafter.

Steinborn died on May 25, 1925. His heirs sold the building to Kilbourn State Bank on August 2, 1927 for \$17,000. His son, Arthur, leased the second floor to continue the photo studio business from August 1927 to August 1930. Kilbourn State Bank took out a permit on May 8, 1928 to extensively remodel the building. The second floor balcony had an elaborate iron railing and a large chandelier hung down into the public area of the building.

Kilbourn State Bank occupied this building through 1971, then they moved to 6055 W. Lisbon Avenue. They remained an independent financial institution until late February 1997 when they were taken over by St. Francis Bank. St. Francis Bank still operates the Lisbon Avenue location.

Kilbourn State Bank retained ownership of the Fond du Lac Avenue property after their relocation. They leased the building to the North Milwaukee State Bank, which was incorporated on August 6, 1970. North Milwaukee State Bank is the first minority

owned and operated bank in Wisconsin. Around 1979 they moved to 5630 W. Fond du Lac Avenue where they are presently.

In 1979 the Northwest Action Council purchased and occupied the Fond du Lac Avenue building from Kilbourn State Bank. They occupied it into the early 1980's.

Neighborhood Housing Services of Milwaukee also occupied the building from 1981 to 1983. In 1986 the property went into tax delinquency and has been vacant since about 1992. In 1995 it was quit claimed to EPF Corp. The Milwaukee Community Service Corps will now use the building as its headquarters to return needed jobs to the neighborhood through its training programs.

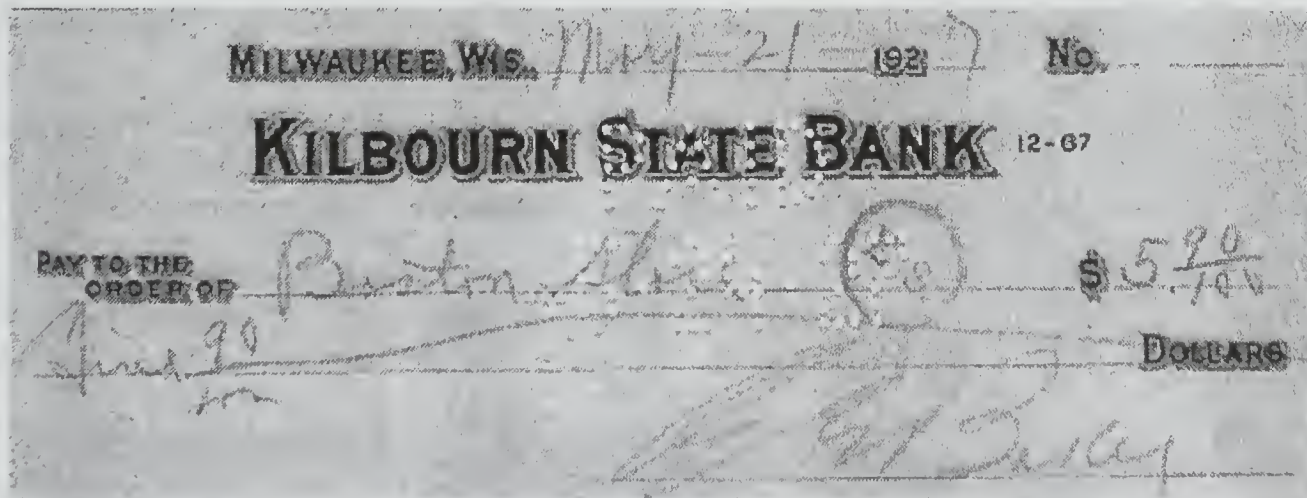
No significant alterations have been made to the exterior since the 1928 remodeling. During this early period of the bank, the location was a transportation and pedestrian hub. Because of the architect and his architectural elements, the Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission attempted to get historic designation for this building but failed. With a new tenant, the building has been saved for the time being. This building reminds us of the time before and after World War II when banks were individually owned and served the neighborhood where they were located.



Bank is from the Italian word "BANCA." meaning bench!

Money changers and lenders used a bench for an office... and anyone seeking financial assistance would go to the BENCH or BANCA.

[ref. Odd & Curious by Mort Reed]



A 1927 check from the Kilbourn State Bank.

Who Is The Man On The Franklin 50¢ Coin?

by Ron Calkins #34L

Benjamin Franklin was a diplomat, printer, journalist, scientist and Founding Father. Among the countless aphorisms coined by Franklin is his advice on avoiding vanity and self-importance "Let all Men know thee, but no man know thee thoroughly."

Born in Boston in 1706, Franklin left school at 10 to help his father, a tallow chandler and soapmaker. Apprenticed to his half brother, a printer, he bridled and fled to Philadelphia at the age of 17.

There he became a printer himself, and later publisher of the Pennsylvania Gazette and Poor Richard's Almanac. In his free time, Ben sold books, set up a library, a debating club and a fire-fighting service, organized and ran the post office and helped establish an academy that later became the University of Pennsylvania.

Apparently desperate for something to do, he figured out that lightning is nothing more than electricity by using a kite with a key on a string. Electricity was itself a phenomenon only beginning to be studied. His invention of the lightning rod soon followed. He read voraciously and corresponded to scores of important people about the issues of the day.

Franklin lived abroad more than a fourth of his 84 years, where it's known he loved the French ladies. He lobbied for various American interests (before "American" was a word). He spent 5 years trying to pry Pennsylvania loose from the Penns and have it put directly under the king, as was the case with other colonies. As late as 1775 Franklin thought of himself and his countrymen as English subjects and he lobbied ceaselessly for recognition of their rights within the British Empire. But English stubbornness finally persuaded him otherwise, and events back

home quickly outraced him. Though a relative latecomer to the cause of our nation's independence, he was relentless in his pursuit after he joined the cause.

Franklin returned home from England in time to serve in the Second Continental Congress, helping to draft the Declaration of Independence and organize the early war of independence effort. Within months he returned to France, where eventually he won their full military and financial support, without which the Revolution might well have failed.

When the Revolutionary War was won, he helped negotiate the treaty with England, chafing constantly at the antics of John Adams and John Jay. Franklin stayed in France 3 more years as our new nation's ambassador.

Though a bit weary, 81 year old Franklin attended our Constitutional Convention. He kept quiet for most of the debate, and his most substantive proposal (a one-chamber legislature) was rejected. But he played a key part in the proceedings just by being there. No document would have been approved without the imprimatur of Franklin, who was second in standing only to George Washington.

Our Declaration of Independence still faced a tough fight and Franklin, in one last burst of public spiritedness, campaigned enthusiastically for its adoption. It was his last burst... he died April 17, 1790, a year after Washington took office as president.

Thus, when the U.S. Government decided to memorialize Benjamin Franklin on a new coin, their decision was understandable!



**The Franklin
Half Dollar**

Those years from 1948 through 1963 when the Franklin Half Dollars were

America's golden years. It was the time of the great American boom, the greatest economic surge the world ever saw. It brought the coming of Camelot, the romantic arrival of a dashing young President Kennedy and the most glamorous of all the First Ladies who have ever graced the White House. It was the breakthrough moment when we vowed to shake off the shackles of gravity and conquer the last frontier -- space -- and took "one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind."

The John F. Kennedy Half Dollar was a tribute to the martyred President and remains enormously desired by his millions of supporters. The Benjamin Franklin Half Dollar, which came between the Walking Liberty Half Dollar and the John F. Kennedy Half Dollar, had the shortest run of any modern half dollar and was practically overlooked.

Small Mintings

A coin's rarity depends on three things. First is the number minted; second is the number which survive and third is the number of collectors of the coin. In the case of the Franklin, all factors make dates scarce.

The 16-year minting of the Franklin (1948-1963) was among the briefest of any 20th Century silver coin. In comparison, more Tennessee quarters (just 1 of the 50 State Quarters) were minted in just 10 weeks than the total run of Franklins in all 16 years. In the 3 short years since their release, tremendous pressure from collectors has sent Tennessee quarters through the roof. Yet, Tennessee quarters (like other state quarters) contain no silver, and their generous mintage topped 648,000,000. The Franklins, which are .900 solid silver, and are significantly larger and rarer have quietly languished. Why? Collectors just haven't focused on them.

Meltdowns and Hoarding

The Ben Franklin Half Dollar was the last .900 solid silver circulating half dollar series. Each

coin was struck from .900 silver and contains 173.6 grains of pure silver, more than a third of a troy ounce of the precious metal, so it is particularly vulnerable to meltdowns by profiteers as the price of silver varies.

In 1964, the year after the last Franklin was minted, silver prices jumped. Many Franklin owners had their coins melted to gain a quick profit. Again in 1980, when the Hunt brothers chased the price of silver to \$48 an ounce, Franklins were again melted as the value of their silver content alone surpassed their face value. The number lost to meltdowns is unknown, but it was huge. Every time silver prices skyrocket, more Franklins end of in the melting pot.

The Overlooked Issue

This volatile history has resulted in a tremendous hoarding of Franklins. They have been bought in rolls for their investment potential and they haven't been actively traded. The lack of activity has kept them "quiet" and not top of mind for collectors, so they are salted away for the time when their price moves and then more are melted.

In fact, Franklin Half Dollar mintages were nearly as low as the Walking Liberty Half Dollar (a long-time favorite of collectors). Yet the average "Walker" sells for about 3 times the price of a Franklin.

Franklins May Not Be Overlooked For Long

The Great Lakes Collection of Franklin Silver Half Dollars was auctioned for \$136,000. At the same auction, as part of the collection, a 1953 S Franklin went for \$69,000, which was a record sale for any U.S. Coin struck in the second half of the 20th Century. It seems that Franklins are finally beginning to get recognition from collectors.

[ref: "Benjamin Franklin by Edmund S. Morgan and the Wisconsin State Journal]

* * *



MOVIE MONEY

by Gene Johnson #105L

In the classic western movie "Shane," the buckskin-clad hero is in the Grafton general

store to buy some work clothes. The merchant totals up the sale: a pair of pants, a shirt, shoes and belt, and announces "Young man, you owe me two dollars and two bits." Shane pales at the exorbitant cost, pulls out several silver-dollar size coins and says: "I haven't bought any store clothes for a long time."

If you wondered if the hero paid for his purchase with a couple of 1873-CC silver dollars, perish the thought! The coinage used was probably the product of the Los Angeles Rubber Stamp Company (1884-1935).

While New York City produced several of the very first movie films, California is pretty much recognized as the home of the motion picture. In 1907 a silent movie called "The Count of Monte Cristo" was filmed in California, and many, many, hundreds of movies were to follow.



Movie Money
I am for Los Angeles and Her Industries
Smile Every Minute (aluminum 3.85 centimeters)

Money in the movies is as common as in life. Most movie directors try to mirror life, and real life revolves around money.

Central Wisconsin is a long way from Hollywood, and this newly-found advertising token with the legend, "Mfr's. Of Moving Picture Money" was a long, long way from its California home!

The token is dated by a company name change -- the Los Angeles Rubber Stamp Company used that name until 1935, then was renamed the Los Angeles Stamp and Stationary Company.

L.A. Rubber Stamp
Company
MFR's of Moving
Picture Money &
Badges.
aluminum
3.85 centimeters

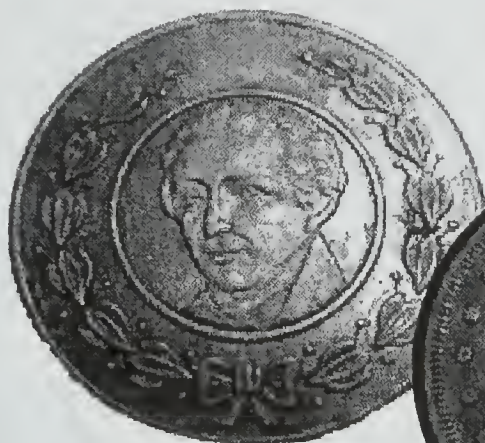


Having been struck before 1935, the token shown may well be from the silent movie era. The first "talkie" was "The Jazz Singer" produced in 1927.

A couple of years back I found an odd dollar-size pictorial token with no wording in a coin dealer's junkbox, and later identified it as "movie money" by using the 1992 book "A Guide to the Identification and Values of United States Exonumia" by numismatic writers Steve Alpert and Larry Elman.

A second damaged pictorial token, of the same design, was added to my collection later. Could it be that there was a movie shot somewhere in mid-Wisconsin that used "movie money"?

side 1
Movie Prop Money



side 2
Movie Prop Money
\$1 round bronze or brass
3.85 centimeters



Information on this unusual moving picture money is not easy to find. The Alpert/Elman writing was the only information that I could locate on the subject. They wrote:

"When scenes in movies required a large number of coins, specially made tokens generally were used as props. They were used in scenes such as a chest full of coins, or coins pouring out of a slot machine. Because there was seldom a close-up shot, any tokens could be used. Many of the tokens state "Returnable for credit at Lb. Rate" so were apparently rented out and returned by the pound."

Just how the movie money is handled in today's films is unknown, but the actual use of U.S. coins or paper money is unlikely (if not illegal). When money does change hands in the 2000 era films, it is almost always paper. Only in the historic sagas, or purported 1880s westerns is real life money of the times portrayed, which in these time frames was almost always gold and silver coins.

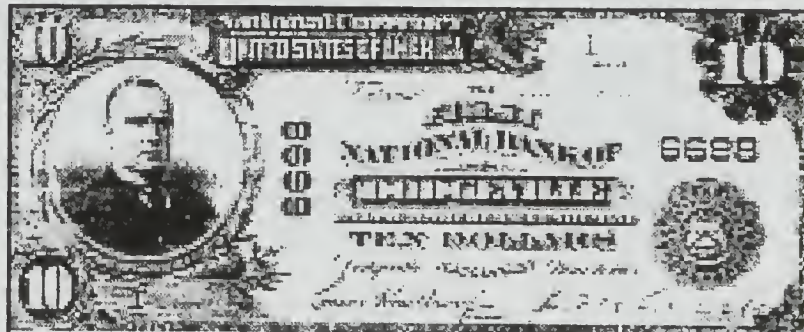
So the next time you see a rerun of "Maverick" on the tube, check out the game stakes of this gambler. It always seems to be 1950-era poker chips or paper money!

However, back then, in the old west, paper money was a scarce commodity.

The westerners, far from the Philadelphia Mint, used a mix of Spanish silver coins, early U.S. coinage, private gold and paper "drafts", good for specific amounts.

As you can see by the reverse of the California token, the folks the at Los Angeles Rubber Stamp Company smiled when they received an order for "moving picture money."

* * *



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Meet Bucky Badger

by Phyllis Calkins #99L

Bucky Badger is Wisconsin's most famous, most beloved, most exciting animal. Everyone in the state knows him and visitors soon recognize his picture.

Intercollegiate football began at the UW in 1889 and the University's badger mascot dates back to the 1890s. The badger



had been Wisconsin's animal emblem long before Bucky arrived. For well over a hundred years it has "crowned" the State's coat of arms.

The state's traditional badger, used

in many illustrations and decorations, has long been depicted as the ground animal it is, standing on all four feet in a natural horizontal position. When the University of Wisconsin was young, it adopted this horizontal badger as its mascot. Although the animal was occasionally caricatured by artists, it never projected an individual identity or definite character.



Metal U.W. badger pins such as this one were used in the early 1940s. This one is from the U.W. Extension Division in Milwaukee (which later became part of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee). It is gold colored and 1-1/2" wide. A decorative colored ribbon would have hung from the bar at the bottom.

Bucky didn't arrive in a blaze of glory -- he was just quietly there when needed. He made his entrance into Madison as a U.W. decal in 1940. The early "flat" badger mascot was an uninspiring, nondescript animal resting on all fours.

Then a change took place!! The mascot began standing erect, striding briskly on 2 legs, chest out, head held high, arms swinging, fists clinched, ready for action, and looking intelligently "forward" as a good badger should.



He became "humanized" in the physique of Bucky Badger wearing a red and white sweater with a "W."

When the country entered into World War II in 1941, everything became disorganized and college sports programs fell apart nationwide. Most athletes joined the military and travel was drastically curtailed. Many University football teams were dependent upon the availability of servicemen who had been football players and were now stationed on campuses in military training programs. Unessential things like frivolous mascot pictures diminished in the face of life-threatening events. Nevertheless, the idea of an upright, humanized badger continued to spread in the 1941 Badger Year Book.

In 1946, after the war, many servicemen became students and the athletic programs were rebuilt. Arthur Lentz arrived at the Madison campus the year after the war to assume the position of Publicity Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. He played an important role in the popularization of Bucky

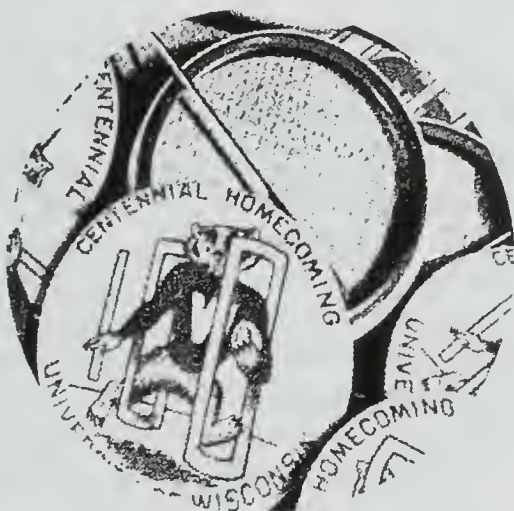


Badger and put new life into the mascot figure.

A limber, athletic-looking badger running in a black sweater began appearing on official Athletic Department publications and press releases in mid-1946.

This black-sweatered badger was featured on the Homecoming button for the University Centennial Year 1948. He is shown with a football in hand, running thru the numerals "100". This version was used into the 1950s.

A black sweated Bucky was chosen for the 1948 Centennial Homecoming buttons.



The last time a live badger served as team mascot was in 1947. He was easy to handle on a leash when he was young, but as he grew older and larger and began feeling mature indignation, he became difficult to handle. He dug holes when he was put on the field, he resisted and bit cheerleaders and after a few frightening escapes, the animal became a permanent resident of the Madison zoo. The student newspaper explained the absence of the live mascot at football games.

Still a mascot was badly wanted -- SOMETHING was needed to liven up the games because the team was not doing well. The Wisconsin Badgers Yearbook staff tried to fill the void by using a raccoon, but it wasn't able to bring luck to the team. Wisconsin suffered

through a long losing period. A good mascot might help revive the team.

There were some unusual kinds of upright badgers and there were holdovers from the past -- Decals ordered by the Student Book Exchange and the University Co-op showed Bucky in a band uniform, playing football, boxing, in a top hat and another variation with his girlfriend (they were called "Benny and Beulah" Badger), but were not intended to be the spirit-rousing character that a student body would proudly and permanently accept.



An advertising company used a variation of Bucky with a long handsome tail.

The record of Bucky's early years is meager because who anticipated that he would become as famous as he is? Bucky

attained official recognition in 1948 on the cover of the centennial year (1848-1948) football facts book.

In 1948 the U.W. football coach resigned and a new era began. Ivy Williamson became coach and with his fresh ideas and different tactics, he put Wisconsin's team on a winning course. Although Coach Williamson's effort in revitalizing football in Wisconsin was great and the players must be given their share of credit, something else helped in awakening a new attitude and lifting morale -- a jaunty school mascot began causing a stir!

It wasn't until after World War II that Bucky began to achieve general recognition in University circles. Bucky hit the big time in 1948 when the Athletic Department started using the decal drawing of him on news releases and letterhead.

The UW Mascot Needed a Name

The likable badger emblem whose use and popularity was growing could not remain nameless. He was being called Bouncey, Buddy, Bernie, Bobby, plus some less acceptable names. It was important that the name attached to him be a good one... it had to be respectable, for it would represent the University and be in use a long time.

The big event of fall sports and campus activity is Homecoming. In 1949 the Pep Committee felt it had to be a special occasion -- there was the post-war fervor, they had a popular new coach and a winning football team. The Pep Committee consisted of chairman Bill Sachse, assistant band director Robert Fleury, captain of the football team Bob Wilson, and several all male cheerleaders. They were willing to do anything to promote the University of Wisconsin!

As the football season progressed, "Pep Fever" took hold as the team continued to win games. Homecoming was approaching and the Pep Committee needed a gimmick to get the crowds out. Though other schools were using live human mascots, there was no plan or funding for Wisconsin to have one. Bill Sachse had noticed a display of papier mache jungle masks in a Memorial Union art gallery and a light bulb went on... could a whole badger head be made using that technique? A group of students got together and something clicked!

William Sagal, the head cheerleader and an expert gymnast was an ideal person available to be a human mascot -- He was a sophomore, after having served in the Army and was already well known as the Jumping Jack of Camp Randall. During half time he did flip-flops from one end zone to the other.

How to get a badger head made was a big problem. Chairman Bill Sachse discussed his ideas with an art major he knew and asked if she could construct a papier-mache head for a badger costume. She was willing to try, but had only limited time and facilities. Everyone

was elated with the results of her efforts. The rest of Bill Sagel's costume would be his regular cheerleader trousers and sweater which had "Wisconsin" lettered across it. He added boxing gloves (boxing was big at the University at that time) and a fighting badger needed to wear boxing gloves. So a human badger mascot was ready!

Meanwhile, a "Name The Mascot" contest was under way. The Daily Cardinal ran a news item promoting the contest, but participation in the contest was less than desired. How many entries there were doesn't matter now. The main point is there was not one entry for "Bucky" and the contest was soon forgotten.

It was the administration that came up with and liked the name "Bucky" -- it connotated liveliness and pluckiness. To add to the ceremony and make the name sound more humorously impressive, the Committee agreed his full name should be "Buckingham U. Badger". That name came to mind because Buckingham Palace happened to be in the news at that time. "U" stood for "you" or "University".

The Homecoming Pep Rally

In the late afternoon of November 11, 1949, students gathered in front of the Memorial Union. Langdon Street was jammed with eager students and cars drove by the elaborate Homecoming displays. The Pep Rally included skits, talks by the coach, team captain and others. The football squad was on hand, the band played, students were cheering and singing, but the highlight was the formal christening of the new U.W. mascot -- head and all. In his first public appearance, Bucky was an instant success!

The November 11th, 1949 edition of the Daily Cardinal merely mentioned "Fighting Badger says good luck to 16 seniors in the last home game." The next day the newspaper ran a picture of the UW mascot and under it was "His Name is Bucky".

The next afternoon was the Homecoming game with Iowa. At half time, the law school seniors would traditionally parade down the field, toss their canes over the goalpost cross bar and try to catch them as a sign they will win their first case.

That day something new was added. Suddenly Bucky shot out from under the stands and the fans loved him. He led cheers and strutted along the sidelines. Of course, Wisconsin won (35-13). Bucky was so popular that he was present at all games after that. He toured the state, appearing at sports events and was guest of honor at many special events.

Bill Sagal started the tradition of having Bucky run across the football field to capture one of the opponent's girl cheerleaders and carry her back to his lair, the home-team side.

Digging For Bucky's Origin

Gwen Schultz, a University of Wisconsin graduate, developed an interest in local history and University lore and in 1979 began researching Bucky's origin...

Who first designed and drew Bucky?

There were two versions of decals sent to the Brown's Bookstore in 1940 and there were several companies manufacturing decals and other items for universities. Further detective work found that the decal was produced by the Anson Thompson Company of Los Angeles, CA and that Art Evans of Garden Grove, CA was the artist. Evans drew numerous mascots for schools across the country from the Air Force Academy to Yale. Within the Big 10 probably his oldest and best known mascot drawings, along with Bucky, are the Minnesota Gophers and Purdue Boilermakers.

Different sheets of decals were designed and printed for the bookstores in the University area. The three main Madison book



The badger mascot decals ordered by the Student Book Exchange



stores in 1940 were Brown's Book Store, the University Co-op and the Student Book Exchange. Each store ordered their own sheet of decals. The University Co-op decals had Bucky playing football and boxing (as shown on the cover). Brown's Book Store ordered a sheet of decals containing the character Bucky, who, indeed made his first appearance in 1940.

Confirming the date was a more difficult task because of erroneous recollections from Art Evans. Bucky had been one of the "comic collegiate mascots" on one of the sheets of decals covered by the copywrite entry. The Company said a top hatted caricature of Bucky was copyrighted and registered at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C in October of 1940. Gwen Schultz discovered that the State Historical Society library right on campus had a Catalog of Copyright Entries. Eugene Blomquist a long-time employee of the Anson Thompson Company later verified the authenticity of the Bucky decals and the year was indeed 1940.

Bucky Today

Today Bucky is known officially in two guises. One is the standard drawing that was adopted by the UW and Wisconsinites, as their official animal emblem; and the other form of Bucky is the live human mascot -- a cheerleader wearing a badger suit and head who performs at athletic events. Unofficially Bucky is also a stuffed souvenir animal that children cuddle and he is used for various commercial enterprises and advertising purposes.

Today, there's not just one Bucky, but six -- all UW Madison undergrads who share a

closet full of Bucky suits and a stratospheric level of school spirit. In late April each year, scores of UW students show up for Bucky auditions, but only 10 male candidates get to try out for the 6 available slots. (There hasn't been a female Bucky since 1997).

The new Buckys learn the basics from their predecessors and then attend a mascot camp where they learn to master the Bucky walk and practice the Bucky autograph (it's not easy to draw that paw print in a furry glove).

Some older Bucky Badger medals and pinbacks do exist, but they're difficult to find. Gold charms, earrings, key chains and an a sundry of other souvenirs are presently available to fans.



A 3 centimeters Pinback
date unknown.

Our Meeting With Bucky

On August 27th we attended an Open House at Camp Randall and relived some of the history by listening to 1860s music by the First Brigade Band, -- we walked the field, met Bucky, cheerleaders and a few of the football players, and toured the remodeled stadium, which now holds 80,000 fans... and Barry Alvarez's office is "very nice".

[Ref. "The Bucky Badger Story" by Gwen Schultz and various other sources. Wisconsin Bucky pinback from Gene Johnson].

**If You
Want to
be a
Badger,
Just
Come
Along
With Me!**



Bucky decal about 1948

Armenian Specimen Notes

by Leon Saryan #100L

Specimen bank notes are authentic emissions which are issued to familiarize central and private banks, law enforcement agencies, and treasuries with paper currency placed into circulation. Careful comparison of notes in circulation with specimen examples makes it possible to identify and thus inhibit the spread of counterfeits.

To clearly distinguish specimens from notes released to general circulation, they generally carry an overprint of the word SPECIMEN in English (or its equivalent in the language of the issuing authority) and a distinctive serial number consisting of zeros or consecutive numerals. They may also have special control numbers perforated cancellations, etc. Typically, specimens do not enjoy legal tender status and are issued in very limited quantities. A few countries have made demonetized specimen notes readily available to collectors, but in most cases it seems that central banks insist on careful control of these notes to prevent their release to the public.

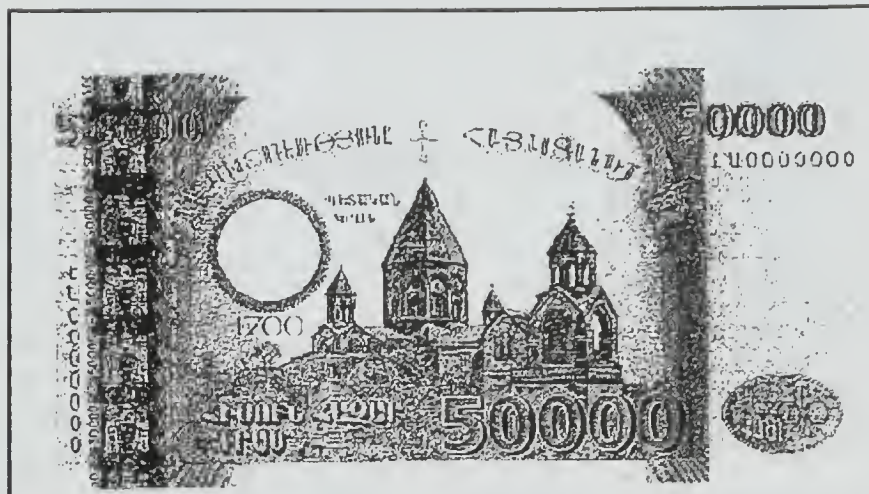
Armenia issued paper currency during the 1918-1924 period, and resumed in 1993 after the breakup of the Soviet Union. Specimens exist from both periods. A few rare specimen examples of the famous and attractive 1919 Waterlow & Sons notes are known. These are illustrated on plates 61-62 (50 ruble), 66-67 (100 rubles), and 72-73 (250 ruble) of Bank Notes of Armenia. These carry several indicia to denote their special status, including an overprint reading SPECIMEN NO VALUE printed diagonally at least once across the face and the back of each note, an imprint along the margin sometimes accompanied by a control number, a circular overprint on the lower part of the face indicating that the note has been canceled, no serial numbers,

and punched holes where the serial numbers and signatures ordinarily appear.

Between 1993 and the present, Armenia has issued 18 attractive multicolor bank notes, depicting national symbols, modern and ancient buildings, and famous Armenians. While specimen examples of each note exist, they are not available to collectors. According to a knowledgeable numismatist in Yerevan, distribution of these notes to central banks and post offices is tightly supervised, and it is considered a criminal offense to release them to the public.

Thanks to e-mail, I was able to view a complete collection of the modern Armenian specimens. All have either the word "SPECIMEN" or its equivalent in Armenian characters (NMOUSH) overprinted in large letters, usually in red ink, diagonally across the face and back of the note. Solid block letters, lettering with serifs, hollow block letters, or hollow italic block letters are used. Each note has a distinctive serial number, consisting of one or two Armenian characters as appear on circulation issues, trailed by seven or eight zeroes. The first 6 notes (dated 1993) apparently do not carry control numbers, but subsequent issues have a control number in small type inscribed typically in the lower left margins of the face.

I should also add that a few unusual varieties of these notes exist. For example, the 50,000 dram commemorative note (issued in 2001) exists with a serial number consisting of zeroes, but lacks the SPECIMEN overprint and a control number in the margin. Not more than three examples of this rarity are presently known, one of which is in my collection.



An unusual "specimen" note of the REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA. This is the commemorative 50,000 dram bank note (2001) issued to denote the 1700th anniversary of Armenia's conversion to Christianity.

This example lacks the SPECIMEN overprint and the control number, but has a serial number consisting of two Armenian characters and seven trailing zeroes. Not more than three examples of this variety are presently known.

1. For general information about specimen notes,

1. For some general information about specimen notes, see Colin R. Bruce, II and Neil Shafer, eds., *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money*, 7th edition, Volume III--Modern Issues 1961-2001, (Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 2001), p. 36.

2. Y.T. Nercessian, *Bank Notes of Armenia* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1988).

* * *



Salt

Wars have been waged for it. Gold has been traded for it. In fact, there were times in history when salt was twice as valuable as gold.

The Roman historian Cassiodorus gives us the ancients' perspective on

the crystalline flakes, "Mankind can live without gold, but not without salt."

To the Egyptians, salt was important even in death. A critical mummifying ingredient, salt prepared the deceased to journey into the after-life.

In ancient Greece, salt was used to buy slaves, which gave rise to the expression "not worth his salt". In Rome, soldiers received salt as part of their pay, known as the *salarium*, from which our modern word, "salary" derives. So important was salt that one of the Roman Empire's earliest conquests was the salt works at Ostia, located on the Tiber River. The road connecting Rome to Ostia, the *Via Salaria*, was the first major road the Romans built.

Caravans of Arab traders cut salt-trading routes through the sands of the Sahara to reach all parts of the known world, exchanging salt from the Mediterranean for gold dust, ivory, goat skins, and slaves. When Marco Polo visited China in the 1200s, he reported that salt was traded in standard blocks imprinted with an imperial stamp. Across the globe, people used salt as money -- and certain regions of Africa still do today.

Salt's Impact on History

Throughout history, the need for salt has spurred or altered scores of major events. Strife caused by salt taxes and embargoes have toppled kings and emperors. Without salt to preserve meats, Columbus and other explorers could have never left port. Napoleon's troops actually died by the thousands retreating from Moscow because of salt deprivation; the French soldiers' immune systems couldn't fight off disease, and their wounds could not heal.

During the American Civil War, salt was not only a dietary necessity but prized as an ingredient in tanning leather, dying cloth for uniforms, and preserving meat. On October 2, 1864, 458 troops died in one day at Saltsville, Virginia, where 11,000 soldiers had amassed to besiege and defend the salt works.

Salt in the Modern World

This mineral, this treasure to all the peoples of the world and a necessity for life on the planet, today casually sits in canisters on supermarket shelves priced under a dollar. Salt is available and abundant.

In modern America, we treasure the white crystals for their flavor-enhancing powers. Maybe to excess. One fast-food cheeseburger bursting with its 1,310 mg. of salt would have sustained more than one of Napoleon's soldiers. We need only 500 mg. of sodium a day to survive. For some people the over-consumption of salt has become a health hazard leading to water retention and high blood pressure.

Truly, mankind can live without gold, but not without salt.

[ref. Lifetimes magazine]

Coin Club Meetings

Antioch, IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 3rd Monday of each month at Antioch Library, 757 Main St, Antioch, IL. Contact: James Koutsoures 847-395-0599.

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coinclub or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Ph. 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. Contact: Leslie Hanulla 847-662-1955.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI. Contact Paul Engwall 715-358-5400.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in Zimbrick Buick Community meeting room. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, 2402 W. Manchester Ave., Milwaukee, 53221. Phone: 414-292-8128.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club

Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets the 2nd Thursday at the Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave. in Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Racine. Contact George Conrad 266-634-0833.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Church Annex, 20th & Bolivar in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186.

Wisconsin Dells Area Numismatic Group

Meets the 4th Sunday of each month at Chula Vista Resort, Wis. Dells. 6:30 social hour; 7:00 presentation. Contact Joe Kaminski 608-254-7908.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Liberty Bell Coin Shop, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437 or Bryn Kruse 715-842-9226.



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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

September 18, 2005 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 98th Semi-Annual Show at Holiday Inn, 7550 E. State Street, Rockford. 55 tables. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chm. Don Smith, 100 W. Main, Rockton, IL 61072. Phone 815-624-0422.

September 24, 2005 - Sheboygan Falls

Sheboygan Coin Show at Municipal Hall, 375 Buffalo St., Sheboygan Falls, WI. Contact: Ed Rautmann, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082. Ph. 920-893-5874.

October 2, 2005 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 65 dealers. Bourse Info: David Hunsicker 262-338-6064. Show Chm. Tom Casper.

October 8-9, 2005 - Cedar Rapids IA

Iowa Numismatic Assoc. Coin Show at Crown Plaza Five Seasons Hotel, 350 First Ave., Cedar Rapids, IA. I-380 at 7th Street Exit #20B.

October 16, 2005 - Racine

AMVETS Post #120 Coin/Sports Card Show at Memorial Hall, 72 7th Street, Racine (off I-94 East on Hwy. 20 & Washington Ave. Downtown Area 7th Ave. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Contact: Frank Patino Sr., 1738 Virginia St., Racine, WI 53405. Ph. 262-633-5379.

October 16, 2005 - Green Bay

Nicolet Coin Club's Fall Show at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay. Hours: 9-4 pm. 36 tables. Bourse chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph. 920-499-7035.

October 20-22, 2005 - St. Charles, MO

Silver Dollar & Rare Coin Expo at St. Charles Convention Center, One Conventer center Plaza, St. Charles, MO.

October 23, 2005 - Cedarburg

Ozaukee Coin Club's 1st show at Circle B Recreation, 6261 Hwy. 60, Cedarburg (Hwy. 60 & Hwy. I). Hours: 9-4 p.m. Show Contact: Nels Olsen 262-376-5182.

October 30, 2005 - Elgin, IL

Elgin Coin Club's 43rd Annual Show at V.F.W. Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL. Hours: 9-3 p.m. 32 tables. Contact: Don Cerny, P.O. Box 561, So. Elgin, IL 60177. Phone: 1-847-888-1449.

November 5, 2005 - Kenosha

Kenosha Coin Show at the Union Club, 3030 39th Ave., Kenosha. Hours: 9:30-4:00 p.m. Bourse chm. Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave. Suite 7, Kenosha, WI 53142. Ph. 262-657-4653 (day); 262-654-6272 (eve).

November 6, 2005 - Madison

Madison Fall Coin Show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolen Dr., Madison. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 50 tables. Contact: John Krueger, 211 E. Main St., Sun Prairie, WI 53590. Ph. 608-834-4100.

November 11-13, 2005 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Contact Ed Kuszmar Ph. 561-392-8551.

November 13, 2005 - Springfield IL

Central Illinois Numismatic Assoc. coin show at Northfield Center I, 3210 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL. 60 tables. Show Chm. Patrick Devine Ph. 217-787-3241.

December 9-11, 2005 - Baltimore MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Contact Ed Kuszmar Ph. 561-392-8551.

February 19, 2006 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 23rd Annual Show. 9-5 p.m. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

February 26, 2006 - Franksville

Racine Numismatic Society's Coin Show at South Hills Country Club, East Side of Hwy. 94, Frontage Rd., Franksville. Hours: 8:30-3 p.m. Bourse Chm. Jerry Binsfeld, 6040 39th Ave. Suite 7, Kenosha, WI 53142. Phone 262-657-4653 (day) or 262-654-6272 (eve.)

March 9-12, 2006 - Chicago, IL

12th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo at Crowne Plaza - O'Hare, 5440 N. River Rd., Rosemont, IL. Contact: Kevin Foley 414-421-3484.

March 12, 2006 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 37th Annual Show at American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th Street, Brookfield. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Contact: Forrest Schumacher 262-542-3934.

March 17-19, 2006 - Baltimore MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention. Contact Ed Kuszmar Ph. 561-392-8551.

April 9, 2006 - Appleton

Fox Valley Spring 51st Annual Coin Show at Tornado's Hall, 2350 N. Casaloma Dr., (near Fox Cities Stadium) in Appleton. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 dealer tables. Show Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Ph. 920-739-1089.

April 20-22, 2006 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Show. Contact: Walter Weis. Phone: 414-384-7966.

April 23, 2006 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at the Park Inn, 2101 N. Mountain Rd., Wausau. Hours: 9-5 pm. 40 dealer tables. Show chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Shofield, WI 54476. Ph. 715-355-5437.

April 26-29, 2006 - CSNS

Central States Numismatic Society Convention at Columbus, OH.

2006 - ANA

Denver, CO (date to be announced)

February 18, 2007 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 24th annual Coin Show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, P.O. Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

March 11, 2007 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's 38th Annual Coin Show at American Legion Hall, 3245 N. 124th St. Brookfield. Contact: Forrest Schumacher Ph: 262-542-3934.

May 9-12, 2007 - Central States

St. Louis, MO

2007 - NOW

Numismatists of Wisconsin's 47th Annual Show hosted by Madison Coin Club. (date to be announced).

August 2007 - ANA

Milwaukee, WI (date to be announced).

February 17, 2008 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 25th Anniversary Coin Show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

April 26-29, 2008 - Central States

Convention at Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL.

August 20-24, 2008 - ANA

St. Louis, MO.

April 29-May 2, 2009 - Central States

Convention at Cynergy Center, Cincinnati OH.

2010 - Central States

Milwaukee, WI. Dates to be announced



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